

1                    **Complete Listing of the Claims with Amendments**

1.        (currently deleted) A connection comprising:
  - a.        a support member;
  - 5        b.        a holder for compressibly holding a strap connector without penetration;
  - c.        a strap connector compressibly held by said holder without penetration of said strap connector by said holder; and
  - d.        a fastener means attaching said holder to said support member,
  - 10        wherein:
    - i.        said support member is a formboard for containing concrete.
2.        (currently deleted) The connection of claim 1 in which:
  - 15        a.        said support member is a formboard for containing a concrete foundation during pouring and setting; and
  - b.        said strap connector is a strap tie holdown.
3.        (currently deleted) The connection of claim 1 in which:
  - 20        a.        said strap connector has a first face and a second face; and
  - b.        said holder comprises an attachment portion, compression means and retaining means for retaining said compression means to said attachment portion.
- 25 4.        (currently deleted) The connection of claim 3 wherein:

          said attachment portion of said holder has a first surface that interfaces with said first face of said strap connector and said compression means of said holder has a second surface that interfaces with said second face of said strap connector, compressibly holding said strap connector.

- 30 5.        (currently deleted) The connection of claim 4 wherein said attachment portion of said holder further comprises:
  - a.        a first portion for attaching said holder to said support member in combination with fastener means; and
  - 35        b.        a second portion joined to said first portion wherein said first surface of said attachment portion is located on said second portion.

1 6. (currently amended) ~~The connection of claim 5 in which~~ A connection comprising:

a. a support member, said support member being a formboard for containing concrete;

5 b. a holder for compressibly holding a strap connector without penetration, said holder having an attachment portion, compression means and retaining means for retaining said compression means to said attachment portion;

10 c. a strap connector compressibly held by said holder without penetration of said strap connector by said holder, said strap connector having a first face and a second face and said strap connector is a strap tie holdown; and

d. a fastener means attaching said holder to said support member; wherein

15 e. said attachment portion of said holder has a first surface that interfaces with said first face of said strap connector and said compression means of said holder has a second surface that interfaces with said second face of said strap connector, compressibly holding said strap connector;

20 f. said attachment portion of said holder further comprises a first portion for attaching said holder to said support member in combination with fastener means and a second portion joined to said first portion wherein said first surface of said attachment portion is located on said second portion; and wherein

25 g. said first portion is a first flange and said second portion is a second flange disposed substantially orthogonally to said first flange and said retaining means of said holder further comprises:

i. ~~a.~~ a third flange joined to said second portion;

ii. ~~b.~~ a fourth flange joined to said second portion;

30 iii. ~~c.~~ a fifth flange joined to said third flange;

iv. ~~d.~~ a sixth flange joined to said fourth flange.

7. (currently amended) The connection of claim 6 wherein:

35 a. said fifth flange and said ~~second flange~~ first surface converge toward each other; and

- 1        b.        said sixth flange and said ~~second flange~~ first surface converge toward each other.
8.        (currently amended) The connection of claim 7 wherein:
- 5        a. ~~— said first portion is a first flange and said second portion is a second flange disposed substantially orthogonally to said first flange;~~
- a. ~~b.~~    said third flange is disposed substantially orthogonally to said second flange;
- b. ~~c.~~    said fourth flange is disposed substantially orthogonally to said second flange;
- 10       c. ~~d.~~    said fifth flange is disposed substantially orthogonally to said third flange; and
- d. ~~e.~~    said sixth flange is disposed substantially orthogonally to said fourth flange
- 15       9.        (original) The connection of claim 8 wherein:
- a.        said second flange is joined to said first flange at a first linear juncture;
- b.        said third flange is joined to said second flange at a second
- 20       linear juncture;
- c.        said fourth flange is joined to said second flange at a third linear juncture;
- d.        said fifth flange is joined to said third flange at a fourth linear juncture; and
- 25       e.        said sixth flange is joined to said fourth flange at a fifth linear juncture.
10.       (original) The connection of claim 9 wherein said compression means of said holder is a wedge dimensioned to closely fit within the space defined
- 30 by said second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth flanges.
11.       (original) The connection of claim 10 wherein said wedge further comprises:
- a tapered portion having a broad end and a narrow end and a tab
- 35       joined to said tapered portion at said broad end.

1 12. (original) The connection of claim 11 wherein:

a. said tapered portion of said wedge further comprises a pair of raised guides on said second surface that closely fit said strap connector; and

5 b. said attachment portion of said holder further comprises a first reference tab and a second reference tab.

13. (original) The connection of claim 12 wherein said attachment portion of said holder further comprises a planar gusset that is perpendicular to and  
10 connects said first flange and said second flange.

14. (original) The connection of claim 13 wherein:

a. said first flange of said attachment portion further comprises fastener openings; and

15 b. said fastener means are fasteners.

15. (currently deleted) The connection of claim 3 wherein:

a. said holder further comprises a transition portion connected to said attachment portion having a first surface that interfaces with said  
20 first face of said strap connector;

b. said compression means of said holder has a second surface that interfaces with said second face of said strap connector, compressibly holding said strap connector and said compression means is a screw with a proximal end and a distal end and said second  
25 surface being at said distal end; and

c. said retaining means is a retaining portion attached to said transition portion, said retaining portion having a threaded opening that threadably receives said screw.

30 16. (currently amended) ~~The connection of claim 15 wherein:~~ A connection comprising:

a. a support member, said support member being a formboard for containing concrete;

b. a holder for compressibly holding a strap connector without penetration and wherein said holder comprises an attachment portion,  
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1 compression means and retaining means for retaining said compression  
means to said attachment portion;

c. a strap connector compressibly held by said holder without  
penetration of said strap connector by said holder, said strap

5 connector being a strap tie holdown and said strap connector has a  
first face and a second face; and

d. a fastener means attaching said holder to said support member,  
wherein:

e. said holder further comprises a transition portion connected to  
10 said attachment portion having a first surface that interfaces with said  
first face of said strap connector;

f. said compression means of said holder has a second surface  
that interfaces with said second face of said strap connector,  
compressibly holding said strap connector and said compression

15 means is a screw with a proximal end and a distal end and said second  
surface being at said distal end;

g. said retaining means is a retaining portion attached to said  
transition portion, said retaining portion having a threaded opening that  
threadably receives said screw;

20 h. ~~a~~ said attachment portion further comprises a fastener portion  
fixing said holder to said support member in combination with fastener  
means;

i. ~~b~~ said transition portion further comprises:

25 i. a first strap receiving portion with a first slot closely  
dimensioned to receive said strap connector, said first surface  
being a side of said first slot ; and

ii. a second strap receiving portion, with a second slot  
closely dimensioned to receive said strap connector, said first  
surface being in line with a side of said second slot.

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17. (original) The connection of claim 16, wherein said holder further  
comprises a fourth flange joined to said fastener portion.

18. (original) The connection of claim 16, wherein:

35 a. said retaining portion is a second flange disposed substantially  
orthogonally to said first strap receiving portion;

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- 1           b.       said second strap receiving portion is a third flange disposed  
substantially orthogonally to said second flange; and  
          c.       said fourth flange is disposed substantially orthogonally to said  
fastener portion.

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19.   (original) The connection of claim 18, wherein:

- a.       said second flange is joined to said strap receiving portion at a  
first linear juncture;  
          b.       said third flange is joined to said second flange at a second  
10 linear juncture; and  
          c.       said fourth flange is joined to said fastener portion at a third  
linear juncture.

15 20.   (original) The connection of claim 19, wherein:

- a.       said first linear juncture, said second linear juncture and said  
third linear juncture are reinforced with raised embossments;  
          b.       said fastener portion further comprises fastener openings; and  
          c.       said fastener means are fasteners.

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21.   (currently amended) ~~The connection of claim 3 in which:~~ A connection  
comprising:

- a.       a support member, said support member being a formboard for  
containing concrete;  
25       b.       a holder for compressibly holding a strap connector without  
penetration and wherein said holder comprises an attachment portion,  
compression means and retaining means for retaining said compression  
means to said attachment portion;  
          c.       a strap connector compressibly held by said holder without  
30 penetration of said strap connector by said holder, said strap connector being  
a strap tie holdown and said strap connector has a first face and a second  
face; and  
          d.       a fastener means attaching said holder to said support member,  
wherein:  
35       e. a- said attachment portion further comprises:

- 1           i.       a first portion for attaching said holder to said support  
            member in combination with fastener means; and  
            ii.     a wedge having a first surface, said wedge being joined  
                  to said first portion; and
- 5       f. ~~b.~~ said compression means is a sleeve having a second surface  
         closely dimensioned to fit said wedge such that said strap connector  
         passes through said sleeve and is compressed between said first  
         surface of said wedge and said second surface of said sleeve, and said  
         retaining means are incorporated in said compression means.

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